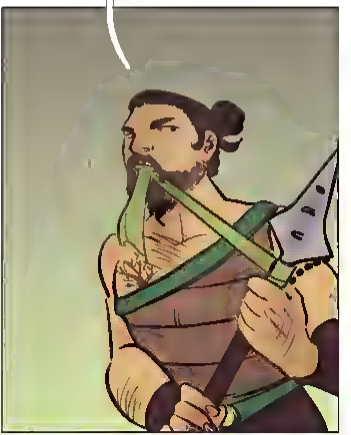
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME. THE COUNCILWOMAN HAD HER CHANCE AND LOST IT.
I'M PREPARING MY SOLDIERS AS WE SPEAK!
YOU CAN'T JUST *MARCH* IN THERE AGAINST THE WIELDERS' WISHES, YOU FOOL!

IF YOU WERE SMARTER, YOU'D TAKE YOUR WIELDER BACK BEFORE HE GOES BERSERK AND KILLS THEM ALL

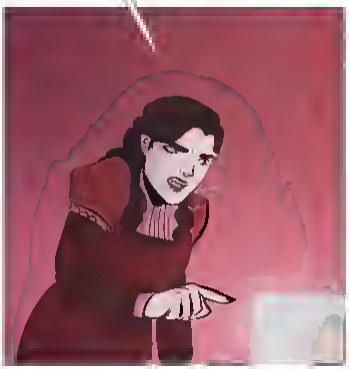
THAT'S ANOTHER REASON I WANT SIENNA BACK HERE



NOW YOU'RE JUST *ASKING* FOR A FIGHT.

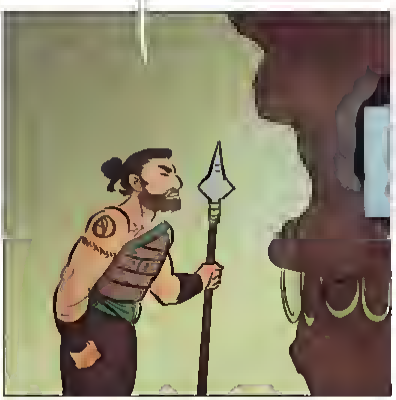
SO I CHALLENGE YOU. DEFEAT MY ARMY AND I'LL STEP BACK AND LET YOU DO AS YOU WISH WITH YOUR WIELDER

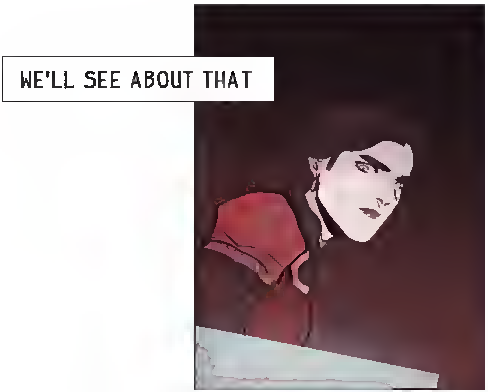
BUT IF I DEFEAT *YOUR* ARMY... YOU HELP ME MAKE SURE THE WIELDERS STAY PUT.



AS IF I'D HELP YOU DO ANYTHING... BUT I CAN'T RESIST AN OPPORTUNITY TO CRUSH YOUR ARMIES.

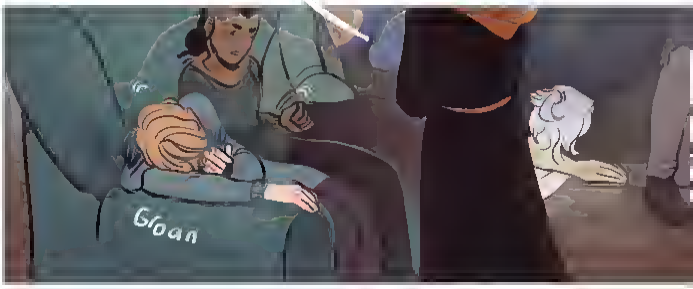
I ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE! YOU'VE ALREADY LOST TO THE FENN BEFORE ...YOU'LL DO IT AGAIN.



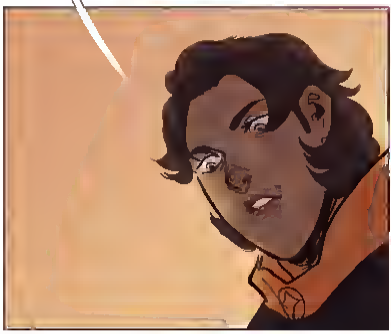

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT

TIME TO WAKE UP

HOW CURIOUS. THE POWER THAT BINDS YOU...



SO THIS IS WHAT MY ANCESTORS DIED FOR



WH-WHO ARE YOU?!

JUST LOOK AT THOSE CLOTHES...
YOU'RE BEHIND EVERYTHING!
YOU *MURDERERS!*

IF I WERE WHO YOU ACCUSE ME TO BE DON'T YOU THINK I'D HAVE KILLED YOU ALREADY INSTEAD OF LETTING YOU HAVE A NICE LITTLE NAP?

WHAT--WHY HAVE YOU DONE THAT TO HIM!?
HE'S NOT AN *ANIMAL!*

HE'S MOONBORN. I HAD TO TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS

I WILL. ONCE YOU'VE CALMED DOWN
...OR DID YOU WANT TO SLEEP SOME MORE?

WHERE IS MY *UNCLE*.

I HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST IDEA WHO YOUR UNCLE IS OR WHERE HE MIGHT BE. I'M ONLY HERE TO TALK.

AND HOW DO I KNOW YOU'RE NOT LYING?

WHO ARE YOU, *ANSWER ME!*

YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO TALK, SO *TALK!*

HOW *DARE* YOU RAISE YOUR VOICE TO THE--

IT'S ALRIGHT.

YOU'RE ANGRY AND CONFUSED. YOU DON'T KNOW ME BUT I'VE TRAVELLED A LONG WAY TO FIND YOU

I AM HIGH PRIESTESS OF MAGEIA.

MAGEIA AS IN, MAGEIANS?

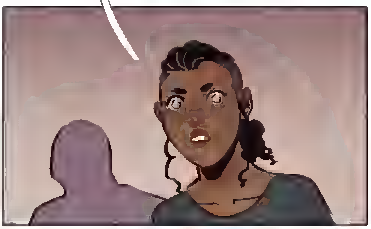
THE EIGHTH RACE?! DIDN'T YOU GUYS DIE OUT?

OBVIOUSLY NOT, BECAUSE THEY'RE RUNNING AROUND *KILLING* PEOPLE!

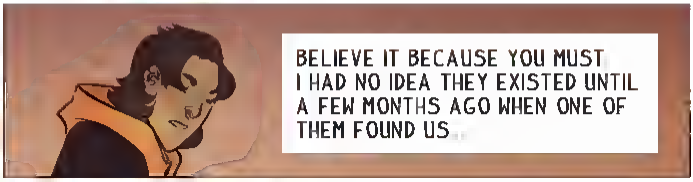
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST COME HERE AND EXPECT US TO BELIEVE ANYTHING YOU SAY?

IF NOT FOR US YOU WOULD BE *DEAD!* WHO DO YOU THINK INTERVENED IN THE FOREST WHEN YOU WERE BEING CHASED BY THE FIGURES IN BLACK?

THAT WAS YOU!



I FIND IT VERY HARD TO BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THOSE ASSASSINS..



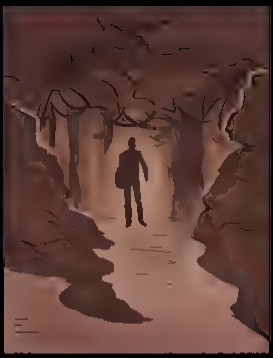
THE REST OF THE WORLD BELIEVES THE MAGEIANS DIED OUT BECAUSE WE WISHED IT THAT WAY.

WE BANISHED OURSELVES A THOUSAND YEARS AGO AND REBUILT OUR LIVES AWAY FROM THE RACES.

ALL WE WANTED WAS TO LIVE PEACEFULLY AND TO CONTINUE OUR PROFOUND STUDY OF THE ENERGY THAT FLOWS THROUGH US.

THOSE OF US MORE CONNECTED TO THE MAGIC BECAME MORE AWARE OF A GROWING IMBALANCE. BUT WE PAID LITTLE HEED TO IT.

UNTIL A STRANGER APPEARED.



HE CLAIMED TO HAVE SOME MAGEIAN BLOOD. PERHAPS HE DID. BUT IT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY LITTLE.

HE WAS OBSESSED WITH US. AND WITH HIS CAUSE. HE WANTED THE GLORY OF STOPPING THE WIELDERS...

...AND IT SENT A SHIVER DOWN MY SPINE.

I MADE SURE TO SEND HIM BACK TO WHEREVER HE CAME FROM...

AND THAT HIS MEMORY OF FINDING US WAS LOST.

THIS STRANGER... WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE?

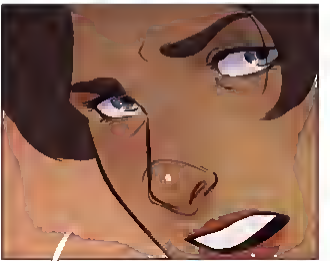
BLOND HAIR. AND DARK EYES...

DEIVOS!

THAT GUY CAME PRETTY CLOSE TO STOPPING US... AND NOW HE'S FISH FOOD.

...THAT STILL DOESN'T EXPLAIN WHY YOU'RE HERE NOW. WHY GET INVOLVED AFTER FIFTY GENERATIONS OF WIELDERS?

FRANKLY, WE MAGEIANS DON'T CARE AT ALL FOR WIELDERS. THEY ARE THE REASON BEHIND OUR PITIFUL HISTORY



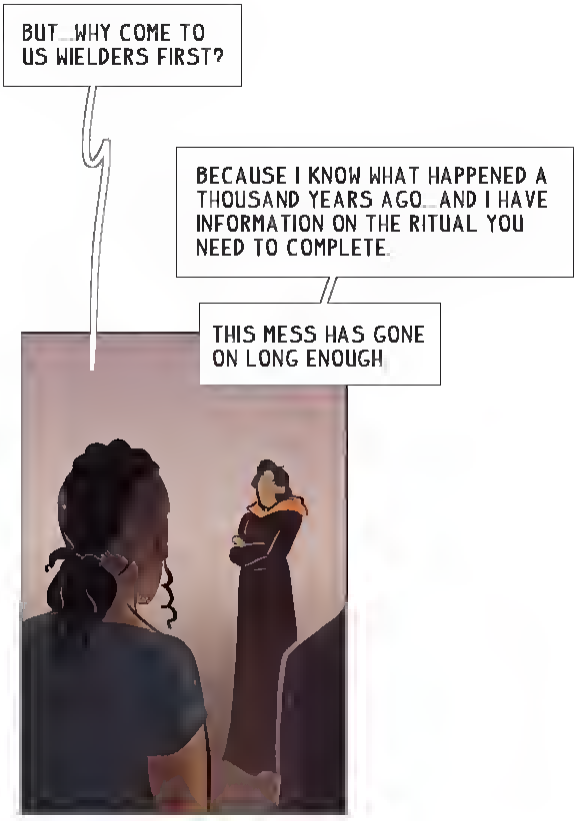
BUT WE *DIDN'T WANT THEM DEAD*

I CAME BECAUSE IT WAS BECOMING CLEAR THAT SOMEONE WITH OUR POWER *DID*

SO THE ASSASSINS... ARE YOUR PEOPLE?

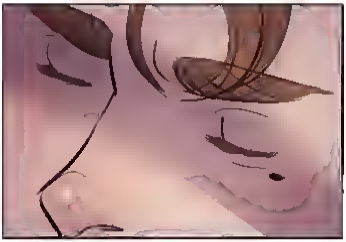
NEVER OURS. WE SPIT ON THOSE COWARDS. THEY'RE TRAITORS TO OUR BLOOD AND COMMIT SACRILEGE BY CONTINUING TO EXIST!

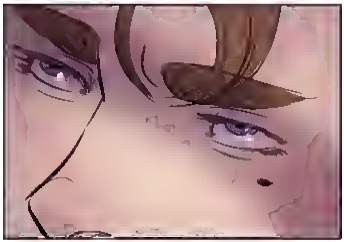
NOT THE ASSASSINS. THEY'RE NO ONE. I'M INTERESTED IN WHO'S SENDING THEM.


BUT...WHY COME TO US WIELDERS FIRST?
BECAUSE I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED A THOUSAND YEARS AGO...AND I HAVE INFORMATION ON THE RITUAL YOU NEED TO COMPLETE.
THIS MESS HAS GONE ON LONG ENOUGH

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER YOU TRUST ME OR NOT. YOU'RE GOING TO NEED MY HELP.

Drip

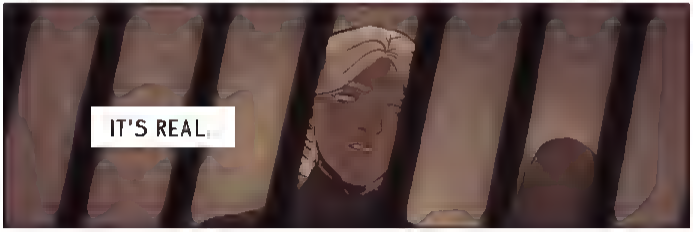




AH. YOU'RE AWAKE

YOUR TIMING LEAVES A LOT TO BE DESIRED. YOU CERTAINLY KNOW HOW TO COMPLICATE THINGS.

THIS HAS TO BE SOME KIND OF SICK JOKE... THIS CAN'T BE REAL.


IT'S REAL.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING ALL THIS TIME... THE ASSASSINS, THE *MURDERS*... HOW COULD YOU HAVE--?

DOES CYRUS KNOW ABOUT THIS?

STEP

HE KNOWS.

NO

NO! YOU--YOU--!

CLANG
BASTARD! TRAITOR! MURDERER!

CYRUS!!